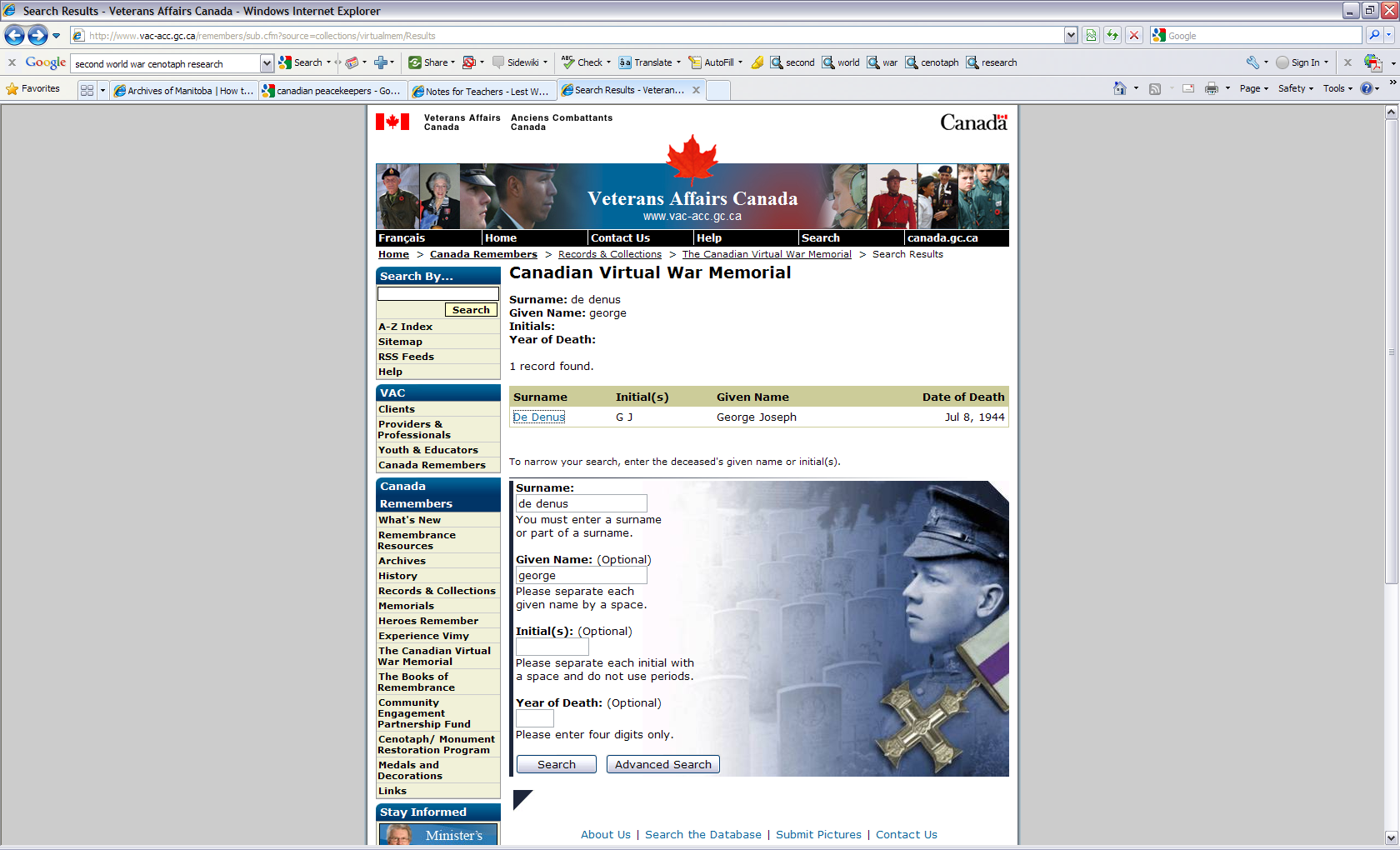
George Joseph de Denus



**In memory of  
Sergeant  
 GEORGE JOSEPH  DE DENUS**   
who died on July 8, 1944

**Military Service:**

Service Number: H/42269

Age: 31

Force: Army

Unit: Regina Rifle Regiment

Division: 1st Battalion

Citation: 1939-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp.

**Additional Information:**

Date of Enlistment: July 22, 1940

Canada

Son of Guy Rolland de Denus and Catherine de Denus, of Winnipeg, Manitoba. He was single and worked as a brokerage clerk. He enlisted under the Non Permanent Active Militia Act serving with the 2nd Royal Winnipeg Rifles, attaining the rank of Lance Corporal. He re-enlisted under in the Regular Force on 7 July 1942 and served in Canada from 7 July 1942 to 25 August 1943, in the United Kingdom from 26 August 1943 to 5 June 1944 and in NorthWest Europe from 6 June 1944 until his death.

Commemorated on Page 288 of the Second World War Book of Remembrance.  
[**[CLICK HERE FOR AN IMAGE OF THIS PAGE]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/content/collections/books/bww2/ww2288.jpg)   
[**[TO ORDER A COPY OF THIS PAGE CLICK HERE]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=collections/books/book_form)

There is a digital photo collection relating to **GEORGE JOSEPH DE DENUS**.

[**[CLICK HERE TO VIEW PHOTOS AND/OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=collections/virtualmem/photos&casualty=2058954)   
[**[CLICK HERE TO ADD TO THE COLLECTION]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=collections/virtualmem/image&casualty=2058954)

**Burial Information:**

**Cemetery:**  
BENY-SUR-MER CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY  
Calvados,France   
  
[**[CLICK HERE FOR CEMETERY PLAN]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=collections/virtualmem/cem&cemetery=2004600)   
**Grave Reference:** XIV. G. 6.   
  
**Location:**  
Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery is about 1 kilometre east of the village of Reviers, on the Creully-Tailleville-Ouistreham road (D.35). Reviers is a village and commune in the Department of the Calvados. It is located 15 kilometres north-west of Caen and 18 kilometres east of Bayeux and 3.5 kilometres south of Courseulles, a village on the sea coast. The village of Beny-sur-Mer is some 2 kilometres south-east of the cemetery. The bus service between Caen and Arromanches (via Reviers and Ver-sur-Mer) passes the cemetery.  
  
It was on the coast just to the north that the 3rd Canadian Division landed on 6th June 1944; on that day, 335 officers and men of that division were killed in action or died of wounds. In this cemetery are the graves of Canadians who gave their lives in the landings in Normandy and in the earlier stages of the subsequent campaign. Canadians who died during the final stages of the fighting in Normandy are buried in Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery. There are a total of 2048 burials in Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery. There is also one special memorial erected to a soldier of the Canadian Infantry Corps who is known to have been buried in this cemetery, but the exact site of whose grave could not be located.

Information courtesy of the [**Commonwealth War Graves Commission.**](http://www.cwgc.org)

Book of Remembrance

[Commonwealth War Graves Commission: Debt of Honour Register](http://www.cwgc.org/debt_of_honour.asp?menuid=14)

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| **No** | [Surname](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl00','')) | [Rank](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl01','')) | [Service Number](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl02','')) | [Date Of Death](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl03','')) | [Age](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl04','')) | [Regiment/Service](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl05','')) | [Nationality](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl06','')) | [Grave/Memorial Ref.](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl07','')) | [Cemetery/Memorial Name](javascript:__doPostBack('dgCasualties$ctl02$ctl08','')) |
| 1 | [DE DENUS , GEORGE JOSEPH](http://www.cwgc.org/search/casualty_details.aspx?casualty=2058954) | Sergeant | H/42269 | 08/07/1944 | 31 | Regina Rifle Regiment, R.C.I.C. | Canadian | XIV. G. 6. | BENY-SUR-MER CANADIAN WAR CEMETERY, REVIERS |
| Page 1 | | | | | | | | | |
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Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery Today found at <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/general/sub.cfm?source=feature/Normandy/memorials/beny>

On June 6, 1944, now known to history as D-Day, Operation *Overlord*, the long-awaited invasion of Northwest Europe, began with Allied landings on the Cost of Normandy.

The 3rd Division and the 2nd Armoured Brigade were Canada's major ground contribution to the D-Day landings. These were representative of the whole nation: three of the infantry battalions came from Ontario, one from Quebec, three from the Western provinces and two from the Maritimes; the artillery, engineers, signals and service units were equally diverse in origins. The three regiments of the armoured brigade regiments represented Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec.

Under command of the British Second Army, supported by an impressive array of firepower from artillery, rocket-firing landing craft and naval guns, the Canadians stormed ashore at "Juno" beach, in the centre of the British sector, through rough water, beach obstacles, wire, mines and gunfire. By nightfall they had secured a beachhead, which, although short of the planned objectives, was firm enough to withstand enemy counter-attacks. In the days that followed the lodgement was strengthened and enlarged until by 11 June, the bridgehead was deemed secure enough to accommodate new formations that were to pour ashore in the next phase.

The cost in lives had been high, though not as high as had been estimated, and certainly not as high as it would have been without Dieppe. On D-Day alone, Canada suffered almost a thousand casualties, of whom 340 were killed or died of wounds. The list lengthened during the following days as the Germans sought desperately to drive the invaders out.

The men who fell on the beaches and in the bitter bridgehead battles are buried in **Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery** which, despite its name, is near the village of Reviers. The cemetery contains 2,049 headstones enclosed by pines and maples. These mark the dead of the 3rd Division and the graves of 15 airmen. The mayor and people of Reviers take a special interest in the cemetery for, although it bears another name, they feel it to be their own. Fine hedges decorate the entrance, and the flanking registry buildings have platforms from which the visitor can see the whole area and appreciate the skill and devotion that has gone into the planning and design of this superb cemetery.

<http://www.reginarifles.ca/> - information on the regiment

**In memory of  
Lance Sergeant  
 LAWRENCE RAYMOND  LUSSIER**   
who died on September 4, 1944

**Military Service:**

Service Number: H/59640

Age: 23

Force: Army

Unit: Royal Canadian Artillery

Division: 3 Field Regt.

**Additional Information:**

Son of Romeo J. and Mae A. Lussier; husband of Gladys Florence Lussier, of Kelvington, Saskatchewan.

Commemorated on Page 369 of the Second World War Book of Remembrance.  
[**[CLICK HERE FOR AN IMAGE OF THIS PAGE]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/content/collections/books/bww2/ww2369.jpg)   
[**[TO ORDER A COPY OF THIS PAGE CLICK HERE]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=collections/books/book_form)

Do you have photographs or personal memorabilia relating to **LAWRENCE RAYMOND LUSSIER** that you want included in our photo collection?  
Then [**[CLICK HERE TO SEND US YOUR PHOTOS]**](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/remembers/sub.cfm?source=collections/virtualmem/image&casualty=2381669)

**Burial Information:**

**Cemetery:**  
MONTECCHIO WAR CEMETERY  
Italy   
  
**Grave Reference:** III. B. 15.   
  
**Location:**  
The War Cemetery lies in the locality of Montecchio in the Commune of Montelabbate (Province of Pesaro). It stands on rising ground just North of the main road from Pesaro to Urbino, about 12 kilometres west of Pesaro. If approaching by car, take the road 423 from Pesaro to Urbino, following the signs for Montecchio. Just before entering the town, the Cemetery will be seen on the right hand side of the road.

Information courtesy of the [**Commonwealth War Graves Commission.**](http://www.cwgc.org)

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|  | [LUSSIER , LAWRENCE RAYMOND](http://www.cwgc.org/search/casualty_details.aspx?casualty=2381669) | Lance Sergeant | H/59640 | 04/09/1944 | 23 | Royal Canadian Artillery | Canadian | III. B. 15. | MONTECCHIO WAR CEMETERY |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Montecchio War Cemetery from** <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/general/sub.cfm?source=feature/italy99/backgrounders/montecchio>

## Location

Begun as a battlefield cemetery, this site is in the rural locality of Montecchio, in the commune of Sant'Angelo (in Lizzola) and the province of Pesaro-Urbino. It is located 12 kilometres west of Pesaro and was chosen as a permanent battlefield cemetery in the autumn of 1944, when the Allies were fighting to break through the Gothic Line. During the war, Montecchio was situated on the east end and just to the south of this highly effective defensive barrier. In fact, an anti-tank ditch which formed part of the line ran through the valley that lies below the cemetery. There are 582 graves here, of which nearly half - 289 - are Canadian, including one unknown soldier. The majority are from the armoured units, and the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery is also heavily represented. In addition there is one member of the Royal Canadian Dental Corps. The remaining Commonwealth graves belong to the U.K., South Africa and India. Most of these soldiers gave their lives in this area in late August and September of 1944.

## History

The village of Montecchio was basically razed by the Germans so their field of fire could be clearly viewed. Ironically, it has since been rebuilt and has become a popular destination for German tourists. To break this end of the Gothic Line, the Canadians planned to attack from the banks of the Metauro River, several miles inland, to the coast. The Apennines provided many natural ridges and valleys favourable to defence, so casualty reports were frequent. The 1st Canadian Division set out August 25, encouraged by the following address from the 1st Canadian Corps Commander, General E.L.M. Burns:

Let everyone of us go into this battle with the determination to press forward until the enemy is destroyed; to strike and pursue until he can fight no longer. Then, and only then, shall we have won what we, as Canadians, have been fighting for - security, peace and honour for our country.\*

After four days of fighting in the hills, the Canadians successfully crossed the Foglia River. But the main enemy defences lay ahead. The 5th Armoured Division moved up to assist by establishing a second front.

The Allies began the day of August 30th with an air bombardment against German positions at dawn. At 5.30 p.m., the Perth Regiment attacked the end of a ridge northeast of Montecchio, while a knoll at the west end of the town and the high ground beyond were the objectives of the Cape Breton Highlanders. Both units faced incessant fire from the heights as well as minefields along the flat lands. The Perths managed to break through the line first, reaching and passing their objective. The Cape Breton troops had the support of tanks from the 8th Princess Louise's (New Brunswick) Hussars, which helped three of their companies make it to the base of the knoll. After each attempt, however, they were driven back to the Foglia, with casualties totalling 19 members killed and 46 wounded. The Irish Regiment, which had been in reserve, was moved through the path of the Perths. Tanks and artillery guns were not yet available here and as a result the regiment lost 19 killed and 31 wounded. In the end, however, the knoll position was successfully taken, and 121 Germans captured, thanks to Allied artillery assaults and crafty positioning of the Irish Regiment soldiers who caught the enemy from behind. The 4th Princess Louise Dragoon Guards were also involved in these actions as they had been assigned "mop up" duties.

\*The Canadian Army in the Second World War (Volume II, The Canadians in Italy, by Lcol G.W.L. Nicholson, Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1956), p.

Other links <http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/general/sub.cfm?source=links#a1>